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Santa Claus is coming to town



Volunteers of America Santas ring their bells as they cross a street in Fifth Ave. during their 110th annual Sidewalk Santa Parade, in New York, Friday, Nov. 23, 2012. The donations they raise are used for a holiday food voucher program for needy residents.



AHATA Environmental Committee honors school teams of Coastal Zone Clean-up 2012



Award winning schools

ORANJESTAD -- The Environmental Committee of the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) again conducted their wide-reaching Coastal Zone Clean-up of Aruba's beaches on Saturday, November 17. This year, Environmental Committee organizer Vanessa Rasmussen expressed great satisfaction at the increased participation of teams from island schools. Groups from 34 schools, as opposed to 26 from last year, resulted in over 2100 volunteers taking to the beaches to clear them of refuse.

In appreciation of the enthusiastic support of educational institutions, which also encourages a new generation to be conscientious in protecting their environment, awards were presented to representatives of participating schools during an informal ceremony hosted by Fantastic Gardens on Friday afternoon, November 23.

Presenting the awards were Vanessa Rasmussen, Roy Maduro, owner of Fantastic Gardens and Director of the Aruba's Arikok National Park, John Wardlaw, Dean of the University of Aruba, Fernando Fecundo of Santa Rosa Department of Agriculture and Justin Carson, Co-F & B Ma-



Vanessa Rasmussen of AHATA awards University of Aruba

nager of Westin Aruba Resort, a member of the AHATA Envi-

ronmental Committee.

Continued on page 2

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AHATA Environmental Committee honors...

Continued from page 1



Environmental activists Mother and Daughter accept awards

The AHATA organizers presented beautifully etched glass trophies to the various school representatives. A raffle followed, awarding sailing cruises and weekend stays from AHATA members for the participating students. Fantastic Gardens donated a special environmental appreciation program at their headquarters to the students of Aruba's principal high school, Colegio Arubano Oranjestad. Fred Croes and Zaida Everon, who incorporated the clean up into a spe-

cial program they are conducting the school, accepted on behalf of their volunteers.

Each year, the AHATA Coastal Zone Clean-up has increased in scope and volunteer participation in their efforts to keep Aruba's beaches pristine. Their year-round efforts are important in training islanders to appreciate the importance of a clean environment, for both residents and visitors.

Rosalie Klein

Foundation for Women in Difficulty issues info Bulletin

ORANJESTAD -- In conjunction with the commemoration of International Day on the prevention of woman abuse, the local Foundation defending women has issued a bulletin with helpful information about the phenomena of stalking.

WHAT IS STALKING?

Definition:

- When someone in an illegal manner is constantly, intentionally, and systematically pursuing another person by invading their privacy; and doing so totally against their wishes with the express intent of intimidating and/or obligating the person to do something or not to do something that they want. Stalking is a type of persecution. The conduct of a stalker is against a victim

The stalking must be:

- Unacceptable by the victim
- Undesired and against their wishes
- Causes fear in the victim
- Causes much anguish to the victim

Who commits stalking?

- Usually a partner or ex-partner of the victim
- Who has or had a romantic relationship with the victim
- Or: did not have a relationship with the victim but desires this and was denied such a relationship by the victim
- They may not know the victim personally but is obsessed with the victim
- The stalker is a very jealous person
- The stalker wants to avenge him/herself
- The stalker isolates the victim
- The stalker refuses to ac-

cept that their relationship is over

- The stalker wants to continue exercising control and power over the victim
- The stalker may be an unknown person or a well known person to the victim

Reasons for the stalking

- The desire to make contact with the victim
- Being obsessed with the victim
- Is angry or jealous
- Is suffering from a mental or emotional trauma
- Anyone can be a stalker;

women may also be stalkers

Consequences of stalking for the victim

- May have consequences for the victim's reputation
- Victim loses appetite, suffers from hypertension
- Anguish, fright, depression
- Nightmares, sleeplessness (insomnia)
- Suicidal thoughts or behavior
- Physical and mental health may suffer
- And much more...

Continued on page 5




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Connecting travelers with island culture: Aruba Airport Authority Sculpture Garden



Ministers Oduber and Hooyboer, Claudia Ruiz and Peter Steinmetz

An extensive project of upgrading and beautifying Aruba's Reina Beatrix International Airport has been un-

derway for the past two years. One of the most outstanding efforts of the Aruba Airport Authority (AAA) was recognizing the importance of presenting an entry and exit port for island visitors that was more than just a terminal, but a place that conveyed the spirit of the island and its culture, immediately upon arrival and again at departure.

To this end, a "Cultural Consultant Committee" headed by Claudia Ruiz-Vasquez, interior designer

and stylist, was appointed. AAA CEO Peter Steinmetz credited her and her colleagues, artists Stan Kuiperi and Ciro Abath, Myrna Jansen, Chief Advisor to the Minister of Tourism and Art Appreciation Professor Adi Martis, with the stunning and tranquil AAA Sculpture Garden, which officially opened on Friday evening, November 23.

The garden is located adjacent to the entrance to the departure gates. The beautifully landscaped space features the contemporary work of seven island artists: "Double Nothing" by Ryan Oduber, "Love is in the Air" by Osaira Muyale, "Message from the Cave" by Stan Kuiperi, "Desert Fruit" by Ciro Abath, "Dancing with the Wind" by Miriam de L'Isle, "Look an Iguana: by Omaira Silva, and "A Tribute to the Aruban People" by Gilbert Senchi.

Aruba's Minister of Economic & Social Affairs and Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar and Minister of Tourism, Transport and



For the People of Aruba by Gilbert Senchi

Labor, Otmar Oduber, were proud to be part of the unveiling event. "It has been the vision of the AAA and the government to incorporate art and culture of an elevated quality at the airport," stated Minister Oduber. "Our goal is to boost appreciation for our cultural and artistic expression, create authentic experiences and endorse our artists to educate and encourage a feeling of warmth and welcome at the airport."

Minister Hooyboer-Winklaar informed the gathering she had just bid farewell to HRH Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands, a renowned children's author and patron of the arts, the wife of HRH Prince Constantijn. Prior to her departure the day before the unveiling, she was given a private tour of the sculpture garden.

Continued on page 4

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Connecting travelers with island culture...

Continued from page 3



The seven artists



Omaira Silva and her work

"She was very impressed with what she saw," she told the audience. "It is always an honor to be at any event dedicated to the arts," said the Minister, "and I am happy to see we are doing this more and more... We are seeing a development that art is not just for some, art is for everyone. When we see "public art," we see a perfect example...those that don't seek it will come in contact with it."

Following an informal ribbon cutting by the ministers, Peter Steinmetz and the head of the Air Art Committee, each piece was unveiled, accompanied by an appropriately choreographed and costumed dance routine by local performers.

The AAA Sculpture Garden is also home to a small café called "Mellow" where visitors to the airport can relax and refresh, while being immersed in the environment. The garden is open 24 hours a day and all are invited to come and enjoy its natural and cultural assets.

Rosalie Klein

"Skyline" opens at Home & Nature



Popular local artist Grace Ashruf works diligently to create a collection then shows her work on a biannual basis. This year, the artist has explored new restraints and technical demands with a selection of 36 works of the exact same size, 40 cm x 40 cm, called "Skyline." The exhibition opened on Friday evening, November 23 at Home & Nature, on the Avenida Milio Croes.

Known for her vibrant colors and bold imagery, Skyline demonstrates the qualities which prompt the demand for her paintings. "I found working on a smaller canvas quite a challenge," she admits, "but once I began, I found it forced me to explore all possible hypotheses in an abstract style of skylines."

Though a continuing theme unifies the collection, each painting stands alone. Their size, colors and subject allows them to be grouped or hung individually, enabling them to fill a small wall space or large. The paintings incorporate a diversity of impasto styles, with various objects used to create subtle and intriguing textures.

Grace acknowledges the



idea was originally to create several small works that could be purchased as Christmas gifts at Home and Nature, during the upcoming season, "But I felt this trivialized my artistic and emotional investment I have in all my work. I believe seeing the entire collection grouped as a whole enhances the qualities of each piece."

The current exhibition is open to the public during the shop's regular operating hours, Monday through Saturday. For more information, contact the artist at rahusen@setarnet.aw or call 594-2613.

Rosalie Klein

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Foundation for Women in Difficulty...

Continued from page 2



A few tips to prevent stalking:

- Don't open your door to a stalker
- Don't answer your telephone or cellular
- Change your phone numbers
- Change locks on your doors
- Take note of car numbers, make and color
- Keep a log book on everything that happens to you, day, time, place, what happened, etc.
- Inform family, friends, neighbors for them to be alert and be able to give in-

formation

- Save letters, articles, etc that a stalker may send you
- If you are being followed on the road, go to the Police Station and get help
- Get help and professional guidance
- Let the Foundation know FHMD

What does the law say?

Stalking is punishable by law

- Penal code (strafrecht art. 298-a)
- Maximum penalty is 4 years in prison
- Maximum fine of Afls.25.00
- The victim must file a complaint

Other legal steps:

- Use a lawyer to get a restraining order against the stalker
- Ask for a fine for every time he/she is guilty of breaking the restraining order
- May always request the police to talk to the stalker and issue warnings

HELP STOP STALKING!!

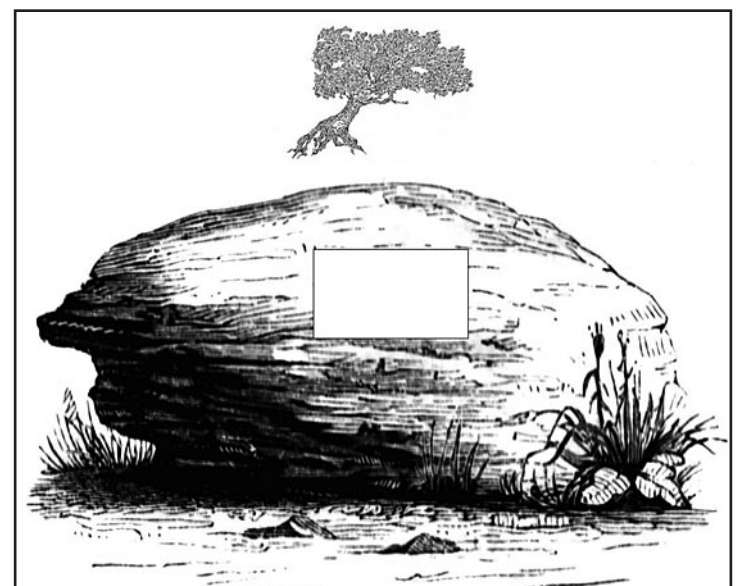
Industry innovator and pioneer in the hospitality industry on the island of Aruba recommended for a:

“Mr. Walter Wiggins/Barefoot Elegance Square”

This honor is based not only on his vision and creativity in transcending and developing a very successful “low-rise” concept in the Hotel Industry on the Island of Aruba, but also on various islands in the Caribbean.

Mr. Walter Wiggins a corporate/civil lawyer from Ithaca New York and his lovely wife and family, traveled to Hawaii, Florida and most of the Caribbean Islands. When they arrived on the Island of Aruba, they fell in love with everything the Island had to offer; peace of mind, tranquility, relaxation, sun, beaches, safe drinking water and excellent cuisine. But most of all they fell in love with the local people and their “Aruba One Happy Island” hospitality.

M/M Wiggins saw a nice piece of property on “Druif” Beach and wanted to build a vacation home. They went to the planning board of Aruba and were told that all properties on “Druif” beach were assigned for Hotels only. They asked what the minimum re-



quirement was, and were told 40 rooms.

M/M Wiggins being professionals and educated people went to their business acquaintances for financial support, returned to the Island and built their first Divi resort in 1969, and the rest is history.....

The recommendation is as follows: Place a big “Island rock” (see drawing) with a bronze plaque with Mr. Wig-

gin's credentials, and a bronze Divi tree on top of the “rock” (size approx. 3ft), on the vacant “Island” that's located between the Divi Links Golf course and the Divi hotel, up to the four way intersection before arriving at the Alhambra Casino.

Bernard Simon
“Living with Passion”
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Mainstreet Downtown Aruba

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Garment factory blaze kills 110 in Bangladesh

ASHULIA, Bangladesh (AFP) - At least 110 people died when fire swept through a factory in the worst-ever blaze to hit Bangladesh's garment industry, officials said yesterday, as witnesses told of desperate workers jumping from upper floors.

Firefighters battled for several hours to contain the blaze, which broke out on the ground floor of the nine-storey Tazreen Fashion plant 30 kilometres (20 miles) north of the capital Dhaka late on Saturday.

Survivors told how panicked staff, most of them women, tried to escape the burning factory, which made clothes for international brands including the European chain C&A and the Hong Kong-based Li & Fung company.

Bangladesh is a global centre for clothes manufacturing due to its cheap labour, with many popular brands using huge factories to produce items for export to Western markets. But work conditions are often basic and safety standards low.

Dhaka district commissioner Yusuf Harun told AFP the death toll was 110, including several workers who died while jumping from windows or the roof. About 100 people were injured.

The director of the fire brigade, Major Mahbub, who uses one name, said many victims died of suffocation as the

blaze started in the ground-floor warehouse, trapping staff working on the night shift.

Kalpona Akter, director of the Bangladesh Center for Workers Solidarity, said the blaze was the worst that the nation's garment industry had ever suffered.

A Li & Fung spokeswoman told AFP: "We are very distressed and saddened by the deaths of workers and wish to express our deepest condolences to the families of the victims."

The company is "matching the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association's financial assistance by pledging 100,000 Bangladeshi taka (\$1,200) to each family of every victim," the spokeswoman added.

Thorsten Rolfes, C&A spokesman in Berlin, said the company had commissioned the factory to make 220,000 sweaters to be delivered to Brazil.

Tuba Group, the parent company of Tazreen Fashion, said on its website that the factory opened in 2009 and employed 1,630 workers making polo shirts, T-shirts and jackets.

It also said its factories make clothes for Walmart, Carrefour and IKEA, and added that the Tazreen plant had 60 smoke detectors and more than 200 fire extinguishers.

Egypt's Morsi says new powers temporary, urges dialogue

CAIRO (AFP) - Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi said yesterday that the sweeping new powers he assumed last week are meant to be temporary, and called for dialogue to find common political ground in the country.

"The presidency reiterates the temporary nature of the said measures, which are not meant to concentrate power, but... to devolve it to a democratically elected parliament... as well as preserving the impartiality of the judiciary and to avoid politicising it," a statement from his office said.

Under a constitutional declaration on Thursday, Morsi can issue "any decision or measure to protect the revolution," which are final and not subject to appeal.

That touched off a show-

down with judges over the path to a new constitution and sparked charges by the opposition that Morsi was taking on dictatorial powers.

The statement said it had been "deemed necessary in order to hold accountable those responsible for the corruption as well as the other crimes during the previous regime and during the transitional period."

That was a reference to the regime of long-time president Hosni Mubarak, who was ousted by a popular uprising early last year. Some 850 protesters were killed during the revolt, and hundreds more since.

Morsi ordered the reopening of investigations into those deaths, and new prosecutor general Talaat Ibrahim Abdal-

lah said "revolutionary courts" would be set up that could see Mubarak, his sons and his top security chiefs retried "should there be new evidence."

Mubarak and his interior minister were sentenced to life over the killing of protesters in last year's popular uprising against him, but six security chiefs were acquitted in the same case sparking nationwide outrage.

Yesterday's statement said the presidency "stresses its firm commitment to engage all political forces in the inclusive democratic dialogue to reach a common ground and bridge the gap in order to reach a national consensus on the constitution, which will be the cornerstone of Egyptian modern institutions."

Britain urges US push on Middle East peace

LONDON (AFP) - British Foreign Secretary William Hague urged the United States yesterday to take a "decisive lead" on reviving the Middle East peace process following the deadly conflict in Gaza.

Following President Barack Obama's re-election this month, "we do look to the United States to give a decisive lead in the coming months," Hague told BBC television, adding: "They have crucial leverage with Israel that no other country has."

"It is time for a huge effort on the Middle East peace process," he said.

European and Arab nations should also offer active support "to make sure that this last chance -- we're coming to a final chance maybe for a two-state solution in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict -- can be successfully resolved", he said.

Hague expressed hope that some good could come out of the eight days of violence in

and around Gaza, which left 166 Palestinians and six Israelis dead, in the form of discussions about opening up the borders of the impoverished Palestinian territory.

"If it's now possible to

move on to the opening up of the access in and out of Gaza and stopping the smuggling of weapons into Gaza then some good could actually come of that awful crisis and terrible casualties," he said.



"Morsi Go" is written in Arabic on the road in Cairo's Tahrir Square on November 24, 2012, a day after opposition-led protests were held in most of Egypt's major cities sparking violent clashes. Defiant Egyptian judges hit back at President Mohamed Morsi on Saturday, demanding he reverse a decree giving himself sweeping powers that put him beyond judicial oversight and calling for a nationwide strike. (AFP PHOTO)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Catalans vote, pondering split from Spain

BARCELONA (AFP) - Independence flags fluttering from balconies, Catalans voted in huge numbers yesterday in a snap election that could lead to a historic split from Spain.

Artur Mas, president of the northeastern region, has promised to hold a referendum on self-determination within four years if the 5.4 million voters give him the mandate to do so.

"These are the most decisive elections in the history of Catalonia, the most transcendental, in which we all play a role as country, as a people," the 56-year-old Catalan leader said as he cast his vote.

The latest opinion polls suggest Mas' ruling nationalist party, Convergence and Union, will retain the most seats in parliament but fall short of the

absolute majority it wants.

Pro-independence parties would share control of the new parliament, the polls show.

The prospect of a break-up of Spain sparked an open conflict with Madrid and overwhelmed debate about the region's sky-high public debt, savage spending cuts, unemployment and recession.

From windows and balconies, some homes unfurled the red-and-yellow striped flag of Catalonia or the pro-independence flag that also incorporates a blue square with a white star.

An independent Catalonia seems far off, however.

Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's right-leaning government says a referendum on self-determination would flout the constitution, defy common sense and hurt all Spaniards.

The vote could drive a wedge into the eurozone's fourth largest economy as it fights the deepest economic

crisis since the return of democracy after the death in 1975 of General Francisco Franco.

Catalonia, which traces its origins back more than a millennium, is proud of its language and culture, both of which were suppressed under Franco's rule.

The region was welded to Spain at the nation's symbolic birth when Queen Isabella of Castile and King Ferdinand of Aragon, which included Catalonia, married in 1469.

Now the region of 7.5 million people accounts for more than one-fifth of Spain's economic output and a quarter of its exports, and boasts one of the world's finest football teams, Barcelona FC.

But Catalonia also has a 44-billion-euro (\$57-billion) debt, equal to one-fifth of its output, and was forced to turn to Madrid this year for more than five billion euros to help make the payments.

Twin suicide bombings kill 11 at Nigeria church

KADUNA (AFP) - A suicide bomber rammed a bus into a church at a military barracks in restive northern Nigeria yesterday and another detonated his explosives-packed car minutes later, killing 11 people and wounding dozens more.

The first bomb attack struck minutes after Sunday mass in the town of Jaji, the latest such attack against Christians in the west African nation where the Islamist extremist group Boko Haram has waged a deadly campaign.

A military officer said the first explosion did not cause any casualties, but drew people who were leaving church to the area ahead of the second blast. Those killed included soldiers, but it was not clear how many.

Spain rejects talks over ETA dissolution

BARCELONA (AFP) - Spain's right-leaning government flatly rejected yesterday an offer by armed Basque group ETA to negotiate its disarmament and dissolution.

ETA, blamed for 829 killings in more than four decades of fighting for a Basque homeland, said Saturday it was ready to discuss disarming and disbanding with France and Spain under certain conditions.

The group, which last year said it had abandoned violence, said in a statement on Basque newspaper Gara's web-

site that one outstanding issue was the transfer of Basque prisoners to jails closer to home.

But Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's Popular Party government refused to consider talks with ETA.

"They know that we have not negotiated nor will we negotiate in any way with the terrorist organization," Interior Minister Fernandez Diaz told reporters.

"So the only statement the government demands, not requests but demands and is working for, is its uncondi-

tional dissolution," he said.

ETA is listed as a terrorist organisation by the United States and the European Union. Repeated raids and arrests by Spanish security forces in cooperation with its allies, especially France, have severely weakened the group.

Its last attack on Spanish soil was in August 2009.

Both Spain and France insist on the complete dismantling of ETA's arsenal and its unconditional dissolution. The Spanish government has repeatedly ruled out talks with ETA over its prisoners.

Brazil crime gang has spread through most of country

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Brazil's largest organized crime gang has now spread across most of the country, according to a Justice Ministry report quoted by a newspaper yesterday.

The gang called the First Command of the Capital is now present in 22 of the country's 27 states, as well as in Paraguay and Bolivia, the report quoted by the O Globo newspaper said.

The group was formed in 1993 by drug traffickers doing time in a prison 140 kilometers from (80 miles) from Sao Paulo. It is blamed for a wave of violence ravaging Sao Paulo state. In response, authorities

have transferred jailed leaders of the gang to maximum-security facilities elsewhere in Brazil.

The report quoted startling numbers: the gang takes in \$32 million a year in drug sales and boasts 13,000 members, 6,000 of whom are held in jails in Sao Paulo state.

It said that of the 152 jails in Sao Paulo state, 135 are controlled by the gang. Members who are not in prison have to contribute \$400 a month.

The increase in violence blamed on the gang is sobering: So far this year, around 100 people have been killed in Sao Paulo state, compared to 47 in all of 2011.

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Health & Living

Merkel aims to ease Jewish ire amid circumcision row

FRANKFURT (AFP) - Angela Merkel sought to ease the concerns of Germany's Jews Sunday over a disputed ruling against circumcision as she became the first chancellor to address the Jewish community's annual council meeting.

In a ruling published in June, a court in the western city of Cologne judged the rite to be tantamount to grievous bodily harm, prompting international outrage and calls for more legal clarity.

"The respecting of religious ritual is a fundamental good," she told the annual gathering of the Central Council of Jews in Germany in the western city of Frankfurt.

Last month, Merkel's cabinet passed a draft law to permit circumcision and clarify the legal situation.

She said she believed it to be a "balanced text".

The new bill stipulated certain provisos for a boy to be

circumcised.

Among these conditions, the draft law said the practice must be carried out "professionally" and "with the most effective pain relief".

An exception must also be made in individual cases if there are health risks, for example if the infant is suspected of being a haemophiliac.

The head of the central committee for Jews in Germany, Dieter Graumann, thanked Merkel for her assistance in what he described as "difficult times."

Merkel also used the visit to reiterate Berlin's support of Israel following eight days of violence in and around Gaza, which left 166 Palestinians and six Israelis dead.

"Every country has the right to defend itself. This is not only the right but also the duty of every government," added Merkel.



PARIS (AFP) : Member of French far left party Front de Gauche (FG) and co-editor of the French monthly magazine Regards, Clementine Autain (C) takes part in a demonstration called by the Women rights national collective, yesterday in Paris, as part of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Since 1999, the United Nations each year invites governments, international organizations and NGOs to organize activities designed to encourage the public to fight such violence. Banner in the background reads: "On November 25, support the fight against violence towards women."

Brazil crime gang spreading:

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Brazil's largest organized crime gang has now spread across most of the country, according to a Justice Ministry report quoted by a newspaper Sunday. The gang called the First Command of the Capital is now present in 22 of the country's 27 states, as well as in Paraguay and Bolivia, the report quoted by the O Globo newspaper said. The group was formed in 1993 by drug traffickers doing time in a prison 140 kilometers from (80 miles) from Sao Paulo. It is blamed for a wave of violence ravaging Sao Paulo state. In response, authorities have transferred jailed leaders of the gang to maximum-security facilities elsewhere in Brazil. The report quoted startling numbers: the gang takes in \$32 million a year in drug sales and boasts 13,000 members, 6,000 of whom are held in jails in Sao Paulo state. It said that of the 152 jails in Sao Paulo state, 135 are controlled by the gang. Members who are not in prison have to contribute \$400 a month. The increase in violence blamed on the gang is sobering: So far this year, around 100 people have been killed in Sao Paulo state, compared to 47 in all of 2011.

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Sci-Tech

New LatAm network aims to help infertile couples

SANTIAGO (AFP) - Latin America's new infertility network will be a support system for those unable to conceive and lead the fight for cheaper medical treatments for would-be parents, its founders told AFP.

Some 400 couples from across the continent gathered in Santiago, Chile last week for a conference to launch The Latin American Network for Infertile Patients.

"The network aims to bring together people with fertility problems, not only heterosexual couples, but single people and gays as well," Macarena Vial, spokeswoman for the Chilean group "Queremos Ser Padres" or "We Want To Be Parents," told AFP.

The new organization, which last week signed its official charter, also held meetings to discuss the challenges couples face trying to become pregnant.

The World Health Organization recognized infertility as a disease in 2009. But in Chile, and much of the rest of Latin America, the cost of infertility treatments like in vitro fertilization can be prohibitively high, costing as much as \$7,000 per pregnancy attempt.

Members of the new Latin American network hope to be able to negotiate group rates for infertility treatments to bring down costs.

The Latin American Network of Infertile Patients will hold its next meeting in Mexico in 2014.

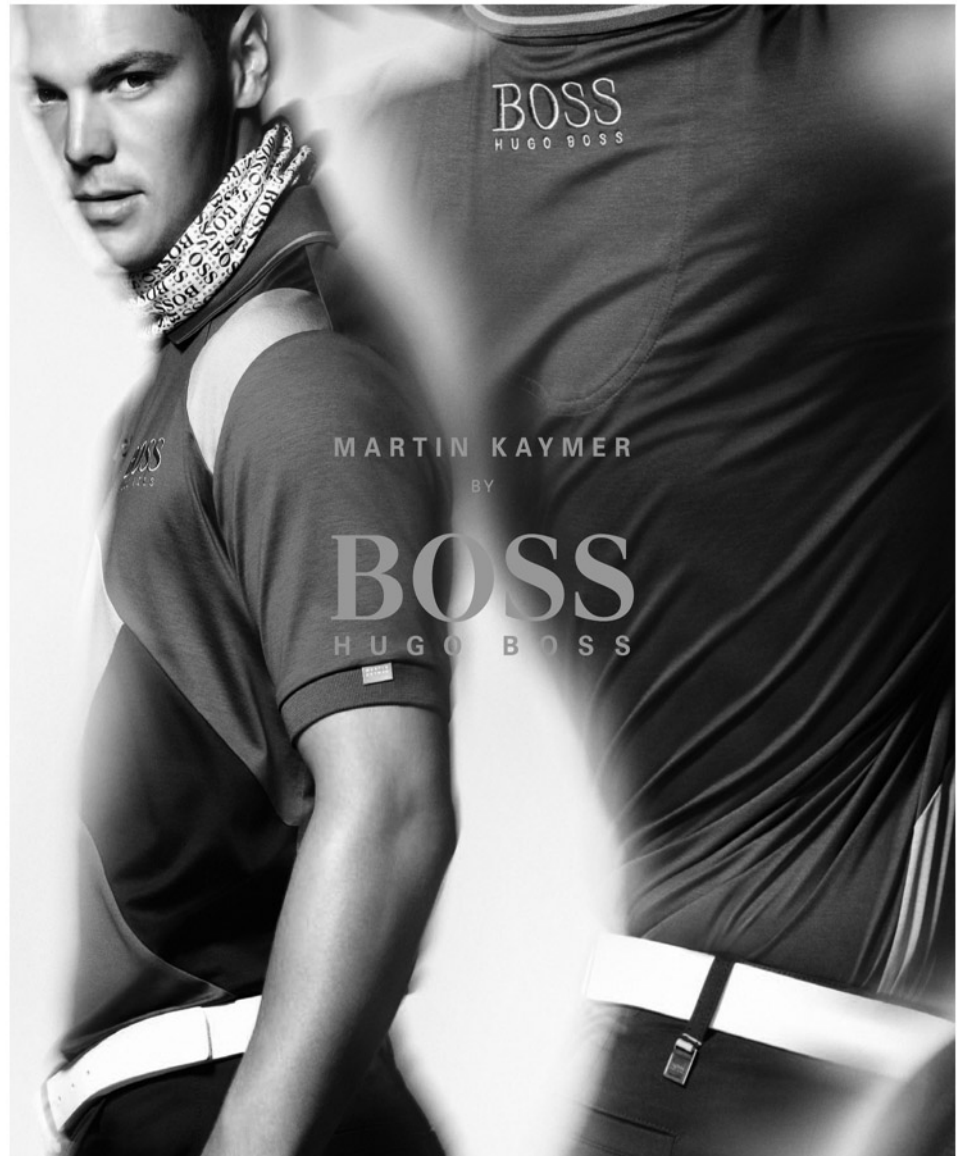
Samsung and Apple preparing for second courtroom fight

--As Samsung and Apple prepare to go to battle in a second California lawsuit, the two sides have been amending their latest lists of 'infringing' products.

Ahead of the new trial, scheduled for March 2014, Samsung has added the iPad Mini, iPad 4 and fifth genera-

tion iPod touch to a list of products it claims Apple has infringed upon, which includes the iPhone 5.

Apple, meanwhile has added newer Samsung gadgets like the Galaxy S3, Galaxy Note 2, Galaxy Tab 8.9 Wi-Fi Galaxy Tab 2 10.1, Rugby Pro and Galaxy S3 Mini.



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Britain battered by more heavy rain



Millbrook was reportedly under five feet (1.5 metres) of water with 40 homes evacuated, a BBC reporter who lives there said, after torrents of muddy water swept through the village on Saturday.

Many communities were cut off after police shut waterlogged roads in Cornwall, where four severe flood warnings were issued overnight over rapidly rising river levels, and neighbouring Devon.

Across Britain, the Environment Agency said nearly 500 homes have flooded since Wednesday and warned more rain was on the way.

In Malmesbury in Wiltshire, western England, pub landlord Tom Hudson said he had water lapping at the door in the worst floods he had seen for 14 years.

"Houses across the road have been flooded to a depth of three or four feet, with furniture floating around in the rooms.

LONDON (AFP) - Hundreds of homes across Britain were flooded on Sunday as heavy rain and strong winds continued to batter the country and environmental officials warned of more storms to come.

In a Twitter message, Prime Minister David Cameron described scenes of flood in the rural southwestern region of Cornwall as "shocking", and

promised that his government "will help ensure everything is being done to help".

Two people have died since heavy rains began on Wednesday, including a woman killed by a falling tree in the southwestern city of Exeter and a man who became trapped in his car in rising waters in Somerset, also in the southwest.

The Cornish village of



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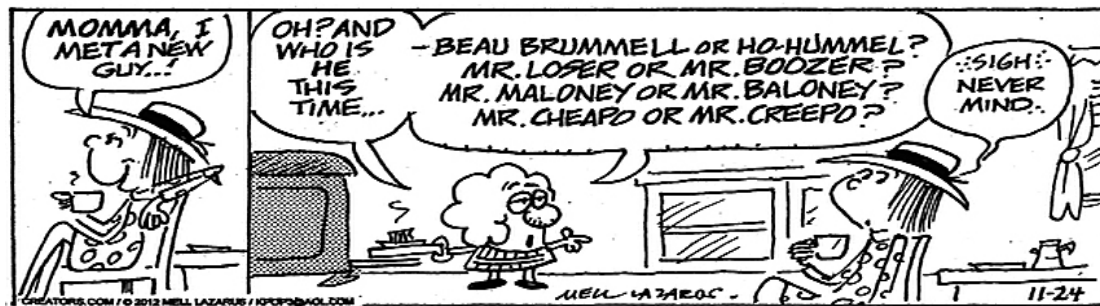
COMICS



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ORAL HISTORY

ACROSS

1. Fabulous bird
4. Play parts
8. Very much
12. Caesar's vow of love
13. Skating jump
14. Company's symbol
15. Pro
16. All: prefix
17. Sandwich cookie
18. Ironically
21. Odds and —
22. Finder's cry
23. Taj Mahal city
25. Drink cooler
26. Signal to the Coast Guard

29. Kid's

- nighttime visitor
33. Foreign —
34. Vienna's country: abbr.
35. People with a totem
36. Abbr. on a business envelope
37. Writer Silverstein
39. Succulent
45. Wise
46. Nastase of the court
47. Drum or trumpet preceder

48. Hammer-head part

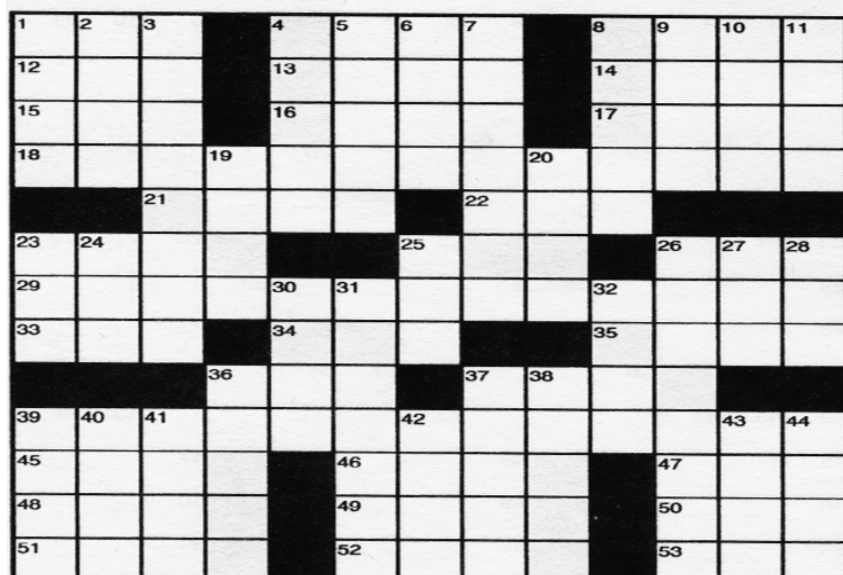
49. Fit to be —
50. Evian, e.g.
51. Celtic language
52. Brat talk
53. Scottish headwear

DOWN

1. Lake diving platform
2. Melville work
3. Treed
4. One way to read
5. "Here — the Bride"
6. "Jazz" author

Morrison

7. Popeye's power source
8. Hawaiian greeting
9. Folk knowledge
10. S-shaped molding
11. Appropriated
19. Punkie, e.g.
20. Graham Kerr, e.g.
23. One — time
24. F-J connection
25. "— a girl!"
26. Most absurd
27. Of the mouth: prefix
28. Roget's concern: abbr.
30. Solemn promise
31. Finesses
32. Good tennis player
36. Pay for a sin
37. Piggeries
38. Listens to
39. Pout
40. Lulu
41. BYU's in-state athletic rivals
42. Others: Lat.
43. Wine region
44. Metric unit



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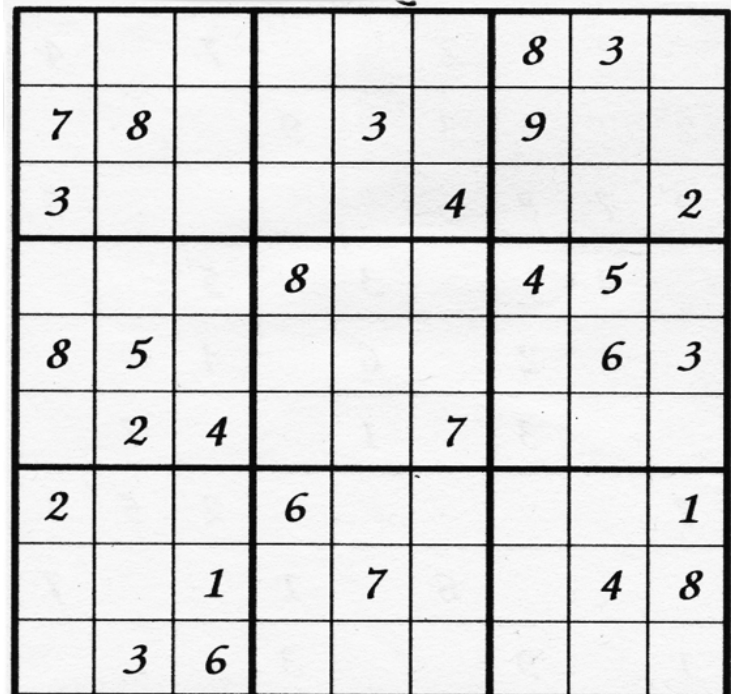
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

5	2	8	1	6	9	3	4	7
8	7	9	3	2	1	6	5	4
1	6	3	5	7	9	8	2	4
6	8	1	2	5	7	4	9	3
3	9	2	1	6	7	5	8	4
2	5	7	9	8	1	6	4	3
7	2	5	8	1	6	9	3	4
4	1	6	9	3	5	2	8	7
9	3	8	6	2	4	1	7	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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Republicans ease on tax as US budget talks resume

WASHINGTON (AFP) - As Congress prepared to dive back into "fiscal cliff" talkstoday after the Thanksgiving holiday, there were encouraging signs that Republican intransigence on tax could be easing.

For the second time in days, a leading Republican, this time Senator Lindsey Graham, edged toward violating something that had been sacrosanct -- a longstanding pledge signed by many in his party never to raise taxes.

Strings were attached -- concessions by Democrats on social welfare programs like health care for the elderly. But his change of heart was a hopeful sign that the Republican leadership is ready to make tough choices in order to strike a deal.

Both Republicans and Democrats are well aware of the need for the country to get its fiscal house in order, as America tries to rein in a huge debt that has been growing bigger by the day and reduce deficit spending.

If no deal is reached before the end of the year, a poison pill law of tax hikes and massive spending cuts, including slashes to the military, comes into effect with potentially catastrophic effects for the fragile US economy.

After months of stalemate, congressional leaders met on November 16 with President Barack Obama -- who is deemed to have a considerably stronger negotiating hand after handily winning re-election 10 days earlier.

Just five weeks now remain in the calendar year to conclude an agreement before the expiration of tax cuts put in place during the presidency of Obama's predecessor, George W. Bush.

Obama has said that any deal he concludes would have to include an increase in taxes on wealthy taxpayers, something congressional Republicans so far have rejected.

The plan he proposes -- and presented to voters on the campaign trail -- would raise the tax rate for top earners, but keep Bush-era tax rates for individuals who make less than \$200,000 per year and families earning less than \$250,000.


Republicans insist raising taxes on the wealthy would be counter-productive and only serve to slow economic growth and ensure that the country continues to be plagued by economic stagnation.

They insist that higher taxes would dampen spending and hiring and investment by business owners.

The top income tax rate, which now stands at 35 percent, will automatically revert to 39.6 percent at the beginning of 2013 unless there is a new budget deal.

Republicans say they prefer to look at ways to bring in more tax revenue by completely overhauling the old and unwieldy US tax code, including closing what they say are "special interest loopholes" likely to hit the poor and the middle class as well as the rich.

Graham, speaking Sunday on ABC's "This Week" program, said it was fair to ask his party to do this in turn for Democratic concessions on reducing government spending on social welfare programs, known here as entitlements.



Daily Exchange Rates

Current as 11//2512	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.81
Britiain	GBP	2.77	2.82	2.88
Switzerland	CHF	190.64	191.36	192.16
Netherlands	EUR	227.84	229.92	232.23
Sweden	SEK	25.79	26.51	27.31
Denmark	DKK	29.86	30.58	31.38
Norway	NOK	30.41	31.13	31.93
Japan	JPY	214.56	216.51	218.69

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FINANCE

Italy economic recovery to begin mid-2013

ROME (AFP) - Italian Finance Minister Vittorio Grilli said in remarks published yesterday that the recession-hit economy would start to recover halfway through 2013 but warned that the country was not yet in the clear.

"The recovery will begin in the middle of next year," Grilli said in an interview with the influential daily La Stampa.

"Even if the emergency phase was over, which it isn't, the markets wouldn't stop being on edge without the certainty that whoever is to govern in the future will continue on the path of rigour."

Italy, which is the eurozone's third largest economy and slid into recession at the end of last year, is set to hold a general election in the spring.

In the year since former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi was driven out of office over his handling of the financial crisis, his successor Mario Monti has imposed biting austerity measures to rein in the country's debt.

Grilli defended Monti's policy of complying with the constitutional requirement of a balanced budget, saying: "Even if in the short-term they can be painful, budget cuts are in the medium-term a good thing for growth."

Italy's government has forecast that the economy will contract by 2.4 percent in 2012 and by another 0.2 percent next year.

Report: Europe mulls Greece 'haircut' in 2015

BERLIN (AFP) - Eurozone finance ministers are considering a possible "haircut" for Greece in 2015, a German newspaper reported yesterday, in a bid to reduce the recession-wracked country's debt mountain.

Other eurozone countries and institutions like the European Central Bank could be ready to discuss writing down a part of their Greek debt holdings to put Greece's debt on a more sustainable footing, said the Welt am Sonntag.

The issue was discussed at a secret meeting of ministers and officials in Paris. Such a haircut might be used as an added incentive for Greece to carry out the reforms required in its second aid package, which runs out in 2014, the paper said, without citing sources.

Germany has been firmly opposed to taking a loss on its holdings of Greek debt, unwilling to ask German taxpayers to foot the bill for keeping Athens in the eurozone.

The ECB has also ruled out such a move, saying it is tantamount to financing Greece directly, strictly forbidden by its founding treaties.

But the Spiegel newsweekly reported that the ECB, as well as the International Monetary Fund, now considered a haircut unavoidable.

Eurozone ministers meet today for their third effort to agree on unlocking a 31.2-billion-euro (\$40.5-billion) slice of aid for Greece as it teeters on the verge of bankruptcy.

Both Welt am Sonntag and Spiegel wrote that the haircut issue would not be decided at today's talks

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

H	E	R	E	R	I	N	R	A	R	A		
I	R	E	M	O	T	T	A	M	A	T		
C	O	M	P	A	S	S	I	O	N	A	T	E
I	O	N	E	T	V	S						
A	L	U	M		A	L	E	H	U	B		
C	O	M	P	L	I	M	E	N	T	A	R	Y
E	S	S	A	R	P		A	N	N	E		
			O	N	O		B	A	R	D		
C	O	M	P	A	N	I	O	N	A	B	L	E
A	L	O	E		A	L	O	T		I	O	N
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T	O	T	S		E	T	E	S		L	E	D

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'Gangnam Style' YouTube's most watched



SEOUL (AFP) - South Korean pop sensation Psy's "Gangnam Style" on Saturday became YouTube's most-watched video of all time, registering more than 805 million views to overtake "Baby" by Canadian heartthrob Justin Bieber. The 34-year-old rapper has rocketed to fame since "Gangnam Style" -- in which he performs his now famous horse-riding dance -- became a worldwide hit following its release in July.

'Dallas' star Larry Hagman dies



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Larry Hagman, 81, who rocketed to worldwide fame for his portrayal of villainous Texas oilman J.R. Ewing in the US television series "Dallas," died after losing a battle with cancer, his family said Saturday. Hagman first became a TV star in 1965 in the comedy series "I Dream of Jeannie," in which he played an amiable astronaut whose life is made more complicated by a beautiful and sometimes troublesome blonde genie portrayed by Barbara Eden. But it was not until 1977, when the prime time soap opera "Dallas" came along, that his Hollywood career really took off. Britain's Sunday Times also reported Sunday that the actor accepted a bag full of cash from Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu in return for allowing the regime to use his image, this when he visited Bucharest in the 1980s with his wife, where they were feted by Romania's Communist leaders.

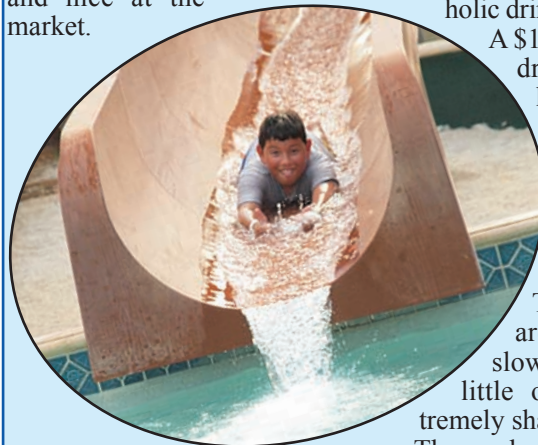
Aruba Waterpark-FINALLY, affordable family fun!

Heaven knows, Aruba has a climate and environment that begs for a waterpark, but has been unsuccessful so far in presenting a proper facility for all ages. The owner and engineer of Aruba Waterpark, sitting in the shadow of the Hooiberg, designed a fun place with eight great slides from kiddy to killer, surrounded by breathtaking vistas.

Not only does it offer frolicking in the fresh water, but



has an extremely clean, attractive and CHEAP restaurant. Hamburger and hotdog platters are at local prices, as is excellent BBQ and various local specialties prepared by the chef from what is fresh and nice at the market.



Soups, salads, and various stobas and local dishes are served in ample portions.

Best part of Aruba Waterpark is the price: \$11 for adults and \$8 for children. Those under two years of age or over 65 are free. All-inclusive packages for adults are available for only \$39 for unlimited food and beverages, including alcoholic drinks from the bar.

A \$13 ticket for children includes lunch, two drinks and ice cream.

A lot of clever planning went into this park. The family area has long, slower slides for little ones and extremely shallow waters.

Those who "take no prisoners" will love the deep dips of the "adult" section. It is thoughtfully laid out so the climb to the top is not a

daunting flight of steep stairs, but a gradual and charming nature walk that doesn't wear you out. The park is situated on a natural outcropping over amazing views of Aruba for miles around.

Aruba Waterpark is open from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM Tuesday through Sunday. They host a 2-for-1 Happy Hour on Fridays from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. There is no fee for entering the park to enjoy the sunset from their cheerful dining/bar plaza, with already inexpensive drinks discounted even more.

Never crowded during the week it is easy to find, just head for the Hooiberg. Call 585-0060 or visit their website: <http://www.arubavacation-park.com/aruba-waterpark> from more information and directions.



Healthy, tasty treats on the menu at Lecca Lecca



Favorites and unique flavors like grapefruit and lemon mint

No foray to Oranjestad is complete without a stop to refresh and refuel at Lecca Lecca, the stylish "Gelato Shoppe" located right in the main bus terminal. This adorable eatery sports a menu that reflects the passion of its owner, Milly Lacle, for "healthy, natural foods, for a healthy body."

The idea of a sweet treat being good for you is contrary to everything we are being told today, but Milly did her homework before establishing her gelato and sorbetto factory on the second floor. Her recipes come from a respected gelato house in Italy, where they have been producing the refreshing, low or no fat product since the 1800's. She continues the tradition of using only fresh fruit juices and natural extracts to as flavoring.

There are absolutely no artificial colorants or preservatives in the gelato and sorbetto, which is produced fresh daily; leftovers at the end of the day are donated to children's homes Casa Cuna or Imeldahoff.

They have over 60 flavors on their roster with 18 available at the shop each day, including at least one sugar-free and one-gluten free for those with special dietary needs. All the gelato is made from organic milk flown in from Italy, guaranteed free of steroids and antibiotics. Lecca Lecca



Tutti frutti a blend of fresh exotic fruits

pasteurizes the milk in their factory, to be sure there are no chemicals used in the process. The end product is whipped light and fluffy naturally, producing a satisfying treat drastically lower in fat, sugar and calories than traditional ice cream.

Unique flavors found nowhere else are a revelation. For a delightful surprise and pure refreshment, sample the grapefruit, passion fruit or carrot sorbetto; the rich, dark, sugar-free chocolate gelato is absolutely sinful, without the guilty conscience! They also have a unique collection of yogurt gelatos swirled with fresh fruit sorbetto in delightful combinations.

Lecca Lecca offers an attractive lunch menu including



Fresh vegetable quiche

quiche made with only fresh vegetables, and sandwiches on crusty bread they prepare in their own bakery. Indulge in the soup of the day for a hearty sampling of authentic Aruban cooking.

Opened Monday through Saturday from 9:30 AM until 7:00 PM; it is a must do while in Oranjestad for a refreshing treat, with the emphasis on FRESH!

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest



Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with

real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to

countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and

appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two



will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50%

of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to

purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

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SPORTS

Football: Defeated Lyon, Bordeaux miss chance to go top

PARIS (AFP) - Lyon spurned an opportunity to move top of Ligue 1 on Sunday after crashing to a 3-0 defeat at Toulouse, while Bordeaux also missed a chance to go first after losing 1-0 at defending champions Montpellier.

Wissam Ben Yedder scored two-second half goals -- taking his tally for the campaign to nine -- for Toulouse, while Etienne Capoue added a late third to halt their three-game losing streak.

Defeat for Lyon saw Remi Garde's side stay on 25 points, one behind leaders Paris Saint-Germain, while Toulouse, 22, jumped up to seventh.

Toulouse dominated the first half at Stade Municipal but were frustrated by a combination of Lyon goalkeeper Remy Vercoutre and the woodwork, but Alain Casanova's men eventually broke the deadlock five minutes after the interval.

Franck Tabanou's deep cross picked out Ben Yedder at the far post, who nodded past Vercoutre from a tight angle.

The France under-21 international then hit his second on 87 minutes, coolly firing beyond Vercoutre after he was put through by Serge Aurier.

Ben Yedder also played a pivotal role in Toulouse's third, rounding the keeper before losing his footing, leaving Capoue to steer the ball home.

Earlier, last year's title-winners Montpellier extended their unbeaten league run to five matches with a 1-0 victory over Bordeaux at Stade de la Mosson.

Boxing: Retiring Hatton 'happy' after comeback defeat

MANCHESTER (AFP) - Ricky Hatton said he felt "happy" in retiring after the former world champion's comeback bout against Vyacheslav Senchenko ended in a ninth round knockout defeat on Saturday.

A tearful Hatton admitted at a press conference he had painfully discovered he was no longer a force at elite level after sinking to his knees from a left to the kidneys in a non-title welterweight bout at the Manchester Arena.

It was an outcome that became increasingly likely as the fight went on and the 34-year-old Briton was an easy target for his Ukrainian opponent.

Hatton, roared on by a passionate crowd of 20,000 in his home city, kept missing with air-shots whereas former World Boxing Association (WBA) world champion Senchenko hardly missed at all from the seventh round onwards.

This defeat meant former world light-welterweight and

welterweight champion Hatton had been counted out in his last two fights, after being knocked out by Filipino ace Manny Pacquiao in May 2009.

"I gave it my best and that's the end of Ricky Hatton," he told a news conference in the early hours of Sunday morning, local time.

Prior to Saturday's bout, Hatton said he'd come out of retirement for "redemption" against Senchenko after battling problems with alcohol, drugs and depression that saw him balloon in weight following the Pacquiao defeat and even contemplate suicide.

However, Hatton was adamant losing to Senchenko would not be the catalyst for renewed personal turmoil.

"I'm a happy man and I don't feel like putting a knife to my wrist and killing myself," he insisted.

Hatton will instead concentrate full-time on his career on the safe side of the ropes as a boxing trainer and promoter.

Boxing: Guerrero earns decision in brutal battle with Berto

Robert Guerrero takes a punch from Andre Berto in the 10th round.

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Robert Guerrero retained his World Boxing Council interim welterweight world title Saturday, emerging from a brutal battle with Andre Berto with a unanimous decision.

Guerrero knocked down Berto in the first and second rounds, but Berto recovered to take the slugfest to the end.

The two battled toe-to-toe in the 12th, the crowd noise so loud that the referee couldn't hear the bell to end it.

All three judges scored the bout 116-110 in favor of Guerrero, who improved to 31-1-1 with 18 wins inside the distance.

Berto, fighting for the first time in 14 months and after a planned rematch with Victor Ortiz was scuppered by Berto's positive test for the steroid nandrolone, fell to 28-2 with 22 knockouts.

Guerrero had said he believed a victory over Berto could finally put him "over the hump" in terms of attracting elite opponents.

He certainly showed himself a warrior against Berto in the fight in Ontario, California, 50 miles east of Los Angeles.

Berto's right eye began swelling early in the first, after Guerrero hit him with a straight left.

In the later rounds, Berto regrouped and caught Guerrero with some punishing uppercuts, but Guerrero seemed unfazed.

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NBA: Lakers rout Mavs for first road win of season

DALLAS (AFP) - The Los Angeles Lakers earned their first road victory of the NBA season in emphatic style Saturday, routing the Dallas Mavericks 115-89.

Antawn Jamison was among six Lakers players scoring in double figures and also grabbed 15 rebounds as Los Angeles delivered their best performance since the arrival of new head coach Mike D'Antoni.

Kobe Bryant and Metta World Peace contributed 19 points apiece and Dwight Howard added 15 points with

five steals.

The Lakers, 0-4 on the road coming into the contest, out-rebounded the Mavericks 61-39. They held the Mavs -- one of the highest scoring teams in the league with an average of 101.8 points per game coming in -- to 37 percent shooting and led by as many as 37 points.

"It started on the defensive end," said Dallas head coach Rick Carlisle. "They had a lot of blow-by's at the beginning of the game. They played a great game and we were really poor. I credit them, we all own this one...they are physically stronger than us."

Vince Carter scored 16 points and Jae Crowder posted a career-high 15 in the defeat, which was the Mavericks' sixth in nine games after their

4-1 start to the season.

The Lakers took charge early, using an 11-2 run to take an 18-8 lead midway through the first quarter.

Dallas put together an 8-2 scoring run -- capped by a dunk from Dominique Jones -- to trim the margin to 10 in the final minute of the first, but they would get no closer the rest of the night.

Bryant made a three-pointer with just over a second left in the first half and the Lakers took a 65-38 lead into half-time.

The third quarter brought more of the same, with reserve guard Chris Duhon's three-pointer giving the Lakers an 85-48 lead.

From there the Mavericks didn't get closer than 22 points.



PARIS : Japan's Ko Matsuhisa (R) fights against Austria's Stefan Pokorny (L) during their men's bronze medal bout in the under 75 Kg category at the Karate world championships on November 24, 2012 in Paris. Matsuhisa won the bout.

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Show over as Schumacher bids farewell

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Michael Schumacher bade an emotional farewell to Formula One on Sunday after finishing seventh in his final race, the tumultuous season-ending Brazilian Grand Prix. After 21 years, seven drivers' championship triumphs and 91 victories, the 43-year-old recovered from an early puncture to score points in his final outing with the Mercedes team. In an incident-packed race, Schumacher fell to the back of the field in the opening laps but climbed to sixth before being passed by title-bound fellow-German, and good friend, Sebastian Vettel. "My emotions are under control at the moment, maybe later having a drink and hugging the mechanics it'll become more sentimental but I'm looking forward to life after Formula One now. "It's been a pretty big challenge in this race because obviously I had the puncture and was at the back again... It took some memories back to 2006 when the same thing happened to me. He added that he had enjoyed his "second career" with Mercedes. "It's been a beautiful time. Lots of exciting moments we shared, and lots of tough moments. The most incredible thing in a way is that I felt a lot of support in these last three years and they have been the most difficult years for me. But the fans have always been behind me."








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Formula One: History-making Vettel wins third world title

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Sebastian Vettel became the youngest triple champion in Formula One history on Sunday when he finished sixth behind the victorious Jenson Button in a tumultuous Brazilian Grand Prix.

The 25-year-old German, who was involved in an opening lap collision with Williams' Bruno Senna, which sent him to the rear of the field, made light of the damage to his Red Bull car as he fought back in a dramatic race run in treacherous rain-swept conditions at the Interlagos circuit.

Vettel's only title rival, two-time champion Spaniard Fernando Alonso, finished a fine second after a courageous drive for Ferrari, but it was not

enough to overhaul a pre-race 13-point deficit as his German rival won the crown by just three points.

The race was littered with accidents and incidents and ended behind a safety car with Vettel bringing his car home in the rain in tears, unable to respond to the screamed congratulations from Red Bull team chief Christian Horner.

Vettel became only the third driver in history to win three successive titles, equalling the feats of the great Argentine Juan Manuel Fangio and childhood idol Michael Schumacher, who finished seventh for Mercedes in his final race before retiring.

Alonso's Ferrari team-mate, local hero Felipe



Massa, drove brilliantly to finish third ahead of Australian Mark Webber in the second Red Bull and German Nico Hulkenberg of Force India.

Hulkenberg played a prominent role in the race, not only

leading for a spell but also crashing into Lewis Hamilton's McLaren to wreck the Briton's hopes of a triumphant conclusion to his career with the British team just when he looked sure of winning.

Vettel was sixth, Schumacher seventh and Frenchman Jean-Eric Vergne eighth for Toro Rosso ahead of Japan's Kamui Kobayashi of Sauber and Finn Kimi Raikkonen of Lotus.

Puerto Rican boxing great Hector Camacho dies



SAN JUAN (AFP) - Puerto Rican boxing great Hector "Macho" Camacho, shot in the head last week, was declared dead Saturday after being removed from a respirator, a doctor said. His death brings a tragic end to a career that saw Camacho triumph in three weight classes but struggle with drugs and alcohol. Highlights of his career included wins over legends such as Roberto Duran of Panama and American fighter Sugar Ray Leonard, whom Camacho knocked out in five rounds. Camacho, who was 50, suffered a heart attack overnight Friday and doctors later disconnected him from life support equipment, said Dr. Ernesto Torres, director of Centro Medico de Rio Piedras, where the boxer was admitted after being shot Tuesday. "There was nothing else we could do for him," Torres said. It is not known if they were deliberately targeted or simply caught up in a random act of violence. The bullet damaged three arteries in Camacho's neck, crippling the flow of blood to his brain.



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